Bigbee BA 1885

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Bigbee Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH,

CONCORD, CHOCTAW COUNTY, ALA.,

September 11th, 12th & 13th, 1885.

OFFICERS:

Rev. J. C. EVANS	Moderator,	Yantley, Ala.
Rev. J. M. [illegible]	Clerk,	[illegible], Ala.
Dr. [illegible] C. BROWN	Treasurer,	[illegible], Ala.

The next Session of the Association will be held with the Bethel Church at Starkville, Miss., on Thursday before the second Sunday in September, 1886.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
[illegible] Publishing Co.
1885.

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PROCEEDINGS.

The Thirty-Third Annual Session of the Bigbee Baptist Association was held with Concord Baptist Church, Choctaw county, Ala., commencing on Friday, 11th day of September, 1885, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The introductory sermon was preached by J. R. Larkin; Text, Prov. 3: 16: "Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand riches and honor."

The Moderator then called the Association to order.

In response to the call for representation, the letters were delivered, and read by B. F. Riley, I. C. Brown and Wm. H. Brown.

Delegates were enrolled as follows:

Beulah—J. B. Pond and E. M. Flowers.

Christian Valley—J. R. Larkin and B. B. Seale.

Clinton—Not represented.

Concord—D. T. Phillips, D. W. Brock, D. G. Powell, David Bryan and J. R. Phillips.

Cuba—C. C. Vaughan, J. D. Cook, R. A. Clay, L. Poole, W. R. Willis and Thomas Woolf.

Demopolis—Not represented.

Eutaw—Not represented.

Fellowship—Letter and funds.

Friendship—J. W. Holcroft.

Gainesville—O. C. Thomas.

Hickory Hill—T. B. Woodward, J. P. Woolf, W. P. Chambers and J. D. Robinson.

Hopewell, Choctaw County—Solomon Kelley.

Hopewell, Sumter County—J. R. Speed.

Livingston—B. F. Riley, I. C. Brown and H. R. Autrey.

Mt. Moriah—E. M. Shaw and I. R. McElroy.

Mt. Sterling—J. B. Turner.

New Prospect—A. R. Scarborough.

Rehoboth—L. L. Belsher, F. A. Freeman, Ed McCall and J. W. Cook.

Shorts—F. M. Ward and T. F. Seale.

Siloam—James Stallings, T. S. Stallings, G. W. Greene, W. H. Hitt and James M. Stallings.

Stonewall—Not represented.

Sumterville—Wm. H. Brown, H. B. Praytor and Sisters Charlie Stewart and Mamie Foy.

York—B. F. Brown, W. J. Pack and James E. Smith, Jr.

Zion—A. P. Evans, Hubert Culpepper, S. E. Davis, T. M. Brunson, J. K. Ryan, W. S. Culpepper, C. F. Rainer, G. E. Brunson, J. M. Ryan and Thomas Davis.

Adjourned to 2. P. M. Benediction by B. F. Riley.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Moderator read the 84th Psalm. Prayer by A. R. Scarborough. Sung. "There is a fountain filled with blood."

A letter was read from John G. Harris, editor of "The Alabama Baptist," expressing his strong attachment for the Association, &c. Also a letter from A. B. Spindle, stating why he was not present, and why the funds was not sent up from the church: sickness being the cause.

The Association then held an election by ballot, resulting in the re-election of the former officers, viz: J. K. Ryan, Moderator; J. D. Cook, Clerk; I. C. Brown, Treasurer.

A letter from Shorts was presented petitioning for membership. The church was received, and delegates enrolled as above.

The pastors and deacons of the church and R. A. Clay were appointed as Committee on Preaching.

Received correspondents:

Bethel Association—J. W. Jones.

South Bethel Association—W. H. DeWitt.

Bethlehem Association, Miss.—A. Gressett and S. H. Shannon.

Cahaba Association—F. N. Bailey.

Tuskegee Association—H. C. Sanders.

Liberty Association—J. C. Hardin and N. C. Tims.

Cor. Sec. State Mission Board—T. M. Bailey.

Representation of Howard College—T. J. Dill.

Representation of Judson Institute—E. E. Ayers.

Editor of Southern Baptist, Meridian, Miss.—A. Gressett.

The Moderator appointed the following special committees:

Finance—Wm. H. Brown, D. W. Brock and Ed McCall.

Correspondence—T. M. Brunson, J. W. Cook and B. F. Brown.

Nominations—E. M. Shaw, W. J. Pack and O. C. Thomas.

Some brethren on the Standing Committees being absent, names were added as follows:

Foreign Missions—B. F. Riley.

Temperance—J. R. Larkin, W. S. Culpepper and H. B. Praytor.

The subject of Inter-Associational Correspondence was stricken out.

The "Historical Sketches of the Churches of the Bigbee Association," as partially completed, was read by the appointed author, W. P. Chambers. The "Sketches" were adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Minutes. W. P. Chambers was continued as committeeman on the subject. (Appendix A.)

B. F. Riley represented "The Alabama Baptist," and presented its claims at the request of the editor.

Committee on Bible and Colportage Work was appointed as follows: C. C. Vaughan, A. R. Scarborough and L. Poole.

Committee on Missionary Needs of this Association was appointed as follows: B. F. Riley, L. L. Belsher, A. R. Scarborough and Wm. H. Brown.

Adjourned to 9 A. M., Saturday. Prayer by T. M Bailey.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Opened by singing, and prayer by L. L. Belcher.

Minutes of Friday read and approved.

On motion, the portion of "The Historical Sketches" to which there was some objection, was returned to the author, and requested to be corrected, and, if possible, to have them ready for insertion in the Minutes of the present session.

The report of the Missionary Needs of the Bigbee Association was read, and discussed by B. F. Riley, T. M. Bailey, L. L. Belsher, A. R. Scarborough, H. C. Sanders and H. R. Autrey, then adopted. (Appendix B.)

A committee of three was appointed to nominate an Executive Committee, viz: J. R. Larkin, B. F. Brown and R. A. Clay.

The report on Sabbath Schools was made the special order for 10 A. M., on Sunday.

The report on Ministerial Education was read, when the regular order was suspended and

Received correspondence:

Bethlehem Association, Miss.—J. L. Williams.

Discussion then ensued upon Ministerial Education by L. L. Belcher, H. C. Sanders, L. Poole, J. L. Williams, B. F. Riley and T. M. Bailey.

Pledges were then made for the support of W. S. Culpepper and A. B. Spidle as beneficiaries the ensuing session at Howard College, as follows:

Beulah	$ 5 00
Concord	10 00
J. R. Larkin	25 00
Cuba	10 00
Gainesville	10 00
Hickory Hill	5 00
Hopewell, Choctaw County	5 00
Hopewell, Sumter County	10 00
Livingston	10 00
Mt. Moriah	5 00
Mt. Sterling	10 00

New Prospect	5 00
Rehoboth	10 00
J. W. Holcroft (paid)	1 00
Siloam	6 00
Sumterville	10 00
York	25 00
Zion	25 00
Shorts	5 00
H. C. Sanders	5 00
F. Y. Townsend (paid)	2 00
J. W. Jones	5 00
F. N. Bailey	2 50
Mrs. S. M. James	2 00
Zion Sunday School	5 00
Concord Sunday School	5 00
David Bryan	2 00
Total	$220 50

The report was then adopted. (Appendix C.)

The report on General Education was called for, but the committee stated that it was not prepared to report, whereupon B. F. Riley and L. L. Belsher were added to the committee, and 2 P. M. made the special hour for the report.

Anjourned to 1 P. M. Prayer by W. H. DeWitt.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened by singing, and prayer by H. C. Sanders.

The Committee on Preaching reported as follows: Sabbath, 10 o'clock A. M., after report on Sabbath Schools, opening addresses by W. H. DeWitt and J. W. Jones; Preaching at 11 A. M. by B. F. Riley.

The committee to nominate Executive Committee made the following report: B. F. Riley, A. D. Fortner, I. C. Brown, A. R. Scarborough and J. D. Cook.

The report on General Education was submitted and discussed by T. J. Dill.

The regular order was then suspended, and committee appointed to apportion the amounts asked for by the State Mission Board from the churches as follows: I. C. Brown, J. A. Davidson and B. B. Seale.

Discussion was resumed on General Education by E. E. Ayres, B. F. Riley and T. M. Bailey; then adopted. (Appendix D.)

The report on Home Missions was read, and discussed by B. F. Riley, Solomon Kelley, A. R. Scarborough, J. W. Jones and T. J. Dill; then adopted. (Appendix E.)

Adjourned to 9 A. M. Sunday. Prayer by C. C. Vaughan.

SABBATH, 9 A. M.

Opened by singing, "Nearer my God to Thee." Prayer by A. R. Scarborough.

The report on Bible and Colportage Work was read, and discussed by C. C. Vaughan, B. F. Riley and H. C. Sanders; then adopted. (Appendix F.)

The report of the Central Committee on Woman's Work was read by B. F. Riley and discussed by him, J. R. Larkin, I. C. Brown, L. Poole and T. J. Dill; then adopted. (Appendix G.)

The report on Sabbath Schools, being the special order for the hour of 10 A. M., was read, and speeches ensued by J. W. Jones, W. H. DeWitt and J. L. Williams, after which, the report was adopted. (Appendix H.)

Adjourned to 2 P. M.

Preaching at 11 A. M. by B. F. Riley. Text, Matt., 13, 17: "For verily I say unto you, that many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them." Missionary collection, $15.96.

SABBATH EVENING, 2 P. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by L. L. Belsher.

The Committee on Nominations reported, and after discussion and amendment the report was adopted as follows:

NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee on Nominations respectfully submit the following report:

That the next session of this Association be held with Sumterville Church, Sumter county, Ala., and to commence at 11 o'clock A. M., on Thursday before the second Sabath in September, 1886. A. R. Scarborough to preach the Introductory Sermon; C. C. Vaughan, alternate; J. D. Cook to preach the Missionary Sermon at 11 o'clock on the Sabbath; J. K. Ryan, alternate.

E. M. SHAW,
Chairman.

The report on Correspondence was submitted and adopted. (Appendix I).

The report on Finance was submitted and adopted. (Appendix J.)

The Treasurer submitted his report, which was adopted. (Appendix K.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPORTIONMENT.

Your committee to apportion the amounts each church is requested to raise during the ensuing associational year for the different objects fostered by the Alabama Baptist State Mission Board, submit the following:

AMOUNTS THE CHURCHES ARE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE.

Churches.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Bible Work.	Indigent Ministers.	Evan'g Col'd People.	Total.
Beulah	$ 8 00	$ 4 25	$ 6 50	$00 50	$ 1 00	$00 50	$ 20 75
Christian Valley	14 50	3 00	6 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	25 50
Clinton	13 50	4 00	6 60	00 50	1 00	00 50	26 10
Concord	20 00	4 00	7 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	33 00
Cuba	25 00	4 00	6 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	37 00
Demopolis	6 75	4 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	16 75
Eutaw	11 25	4 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	21 25
Fellowship	10 00	4 00	5 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	21 00
Friendship	10 00	4 00	5 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	21 00
Gaineville	30 00	4 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	40 00
Hickory Hill	20 00	1 00	2 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	25 00
Hopewell, Choc'w	15 00	2 00	3 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	22 00
Hopewell, Sumter	15 00	3 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	24 00
Livingston	33 00	6 00	6 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	50 00
Mt. Hermon	10 00	3 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	19 00
Mt. Moriah	10 00	4 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	20 00
Mt. Sterling	15 00	5 00	5 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	27 00
New Prospect	15 00	1 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	25 00
Rehoboth	20 25	6 00	6 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	31 25
Siloam	20 00	3 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	29 00
Stonewall	7 80	4 25	4 25	00 50	1 00	00 50	18 30
Summerville	25 00	6 00	7 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	40 00
York	15 00	4 00	4 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	25 00
Zion	25 00	6 00	7 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	40 00
Shorts	8 00	3 00	3 00	00 50	1 00	00 50	15 00
Total	$ 405 05	$00 50	$ 121 35	$12 00	$25 00	$12 00	$ 675 90

Respectfully submitted. I. C. BROWN, *Chairman.*

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That this Association regards with great interest the meetings which are quarterly held, and embracing the fifth Sunday, with great favor, and in view of their importance urges that the churches be as fully represented as possible at each of these meetings.

The report on State Missions was read, and discussed by T. M. Bailey, then adopted. (Appendix L.)

The Chairman of the Committee on Temperance stated that he did not understand that he was to report at this session, but that he had been requested by the Moderator to make a speech on the subject; which speech he made. On motion, the speech was adopted as the report on Temperance. (Appendix M.)

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees to report next year:

On Sabbath Schools—O. C. Thomas, J. R. Phillips and B. F. Brown.

On Ministerial Education—E. M. Shaw, W. P. Brewer and Ed McCall.

On General Education—J. R. Larkin, H. R. Autrey and R. A. Clay.

On State Missions—L. L. Belsher, J. W. Cook and H. Culpepper.

On Home Missions—Wm. H. Brown, A. P. Evans and C. F. Rainer.

On Foreign Missions—T. M. Brunson, M. W. Hand and B. B. Seale.

On Temperance—W. P. Chambers, L. Poole and D. W. Brock.

On Bible and Colportage Work—J. B. Turner, J. B. Pond and T. F. Seale.

Central Committee on Woman's Work—Mrs. J. C. Brown, Miss Tennie Brown and Mrs. T. A. Mooring.

On motion, the Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers was stricken out.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That this Association tenders its thanks to the members of Concord Church and the citizens of this community for their kindness and hospitality to the delegates and visitors during the present session.

L. L. Belsher was requested to furnish the speech which he made on Ministeraial Education to "The Alabama Baptist" for publication.

The report on Foreign Missions was read and adopted. (Appendix N.) By order of the Association the amount for Home Missions was paid to B. F. Riley, Vice President of the Board for Alabama; the money for ministers was paid to the Clerk, the other funds was paid to the Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board.

The Clerk was allowed fifteen ($15) dollars for his services.

On motion, adjourned *sine die*. Closing prayer by T. M. Bailey. Sang, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

J. K. RYAN,
Moderator.

J. D. COOK,
Clerk.

[Appendix A.]

NO. 1.—BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church was constituted February 28th, 1880, by a Presbytery consisting of Elders B. F. Hendon, A. R. Scarborough, J. K. Ryan, C. C. Vaughan, W. F. Pond and A. E. Beavers. Twenty-one members, mostly from Zion Church, went into the organization. W. F. Pond was chosen Pastor and served two (2) years, during which time 21 others were received into the church. J. K. Ryan served as Pastor for the year 1882. Fourteen members were received this year. W. F. Pond was chosen as Pastor for 1883.

NO. 2.—CHRISTIAN VALLEY CHURCH.

This church was constituted in 1833, with eleven (11) members, by a Presbytery consisting of Elders Asa Wright, Eli Davis and Jesse Bird. Eli Davis was chosen Pastor and served three years. Nathan Slay served as Pastor in 1836. H. Smith Hill then served for two (2) years. Thomas Willingham began a three (3) years' pastorate in 1839. P. G. Edmonds served as Pastor in 1842, and Thos. Willingham in 1843. No Pastor in 1844-5-6; W. J. Cadoway was Pastor in 1847, and P. G. Edwards in 1848 and 1850. Since 1850 (nearly 33 years) A. R. Scarborough has been the Pastor with but few intervals. The present membership is upwards of forty (40).

NO. 3.—CONCORD CHURCH.

This church was constituted Nov. 29th, 1845, by a Presbytery consisting of Nathan Slay, Thomas H. Clyatt and H. P. Brunson, with 12 members, four of whom were living in April, 1883. The church record for the first twelve (12) years is lost, but we learn that Thomas H. Clyatt was the first Pastor, and after him came Nathan Slay. B. F. Willis was Pastor in 1857; Hardy Yarbrough was chosen as Pastor in January, 1858. In October of the same year J. K. Ryan was chosen Pastor. In January, 1860, Hardy Yarbrough was again elected Pastor. J. K. Ryan was called to the pastorate in 1861. In 1863 E. Scott became Pastor; Jas. K. Ryan was recalled in 1864, and in 1870 Hardy Yarbrough was again elected. J. K. Ryan was recalled for the fourth time in 1872 and served till 1876, when W. F. Pond, the present Pastor, was chosen. This church was dismissed

from the Liberty Association in 1879, and the next year was received into the Bigbee. It is numerically one of the strongest churches in the Association.

NO. 4.—CUBA CHURCH.

This church was constituted November, 1877, with forty (40) members, mostly from Mt. Moriah, by a Presbytery composed of Elders C. C. Vaughan and A. E. Beavers. C. C. Vaughan and A. E. Beavers jointly served as Pastors for 1878, during which time there were nine accessions to the church. In 1879 J. K. Ryan began a three (3) years' pastorate, during which 51 were added to the church. The present Pastor, W. F. Pond, was called in 1882, and the first year of his pastorate 26 were received into the church.

NO. 5.—FELLOWSHIP CHURCH.

This church was constituted in January, 1850, with 13 members, by a Presbytery consisting of Elders Jeremiah Reeves and Jno. G. Williams. Jeremiah Reeves was elected Pastor and served till 1852, when W. Jacob Parker began a pastorate of 11 years. In 1863 C. C. Vaughan became Pastor and served 12 years. In 1875 A. R. Scarborough became Pastor and has served since that time.

NO. 6.—FRIENDSHIP CHURCH.

This church was constituted at Burton's Hill, October, 1825, by a Presbytery consisting of Elders James Barnes and N. Roberts. John Norris was chosen Pastor. The church was in a prosperous condition till 1837, when it divided on the Mission Question. Jeremiah Persell, the Pastor, went with the Anti-Missionary party, taking with him the church record. The following table will show the succeeding Pastors and the years they served:

Thomas Willingham	1838 to 1844
M. B. Clement	1844 to 1855
R. A. Mattison	1856 & 1857
Samuel R. Freeman	1859
J. C. Wright	1860 to 1868
E. G. Baptiste	1870 & 1871
H. H. Sturgis	1872 to 1881
Jno. E. White	1883 to ——

No Pastor in 1869 and 1882.

Several Deacons have been ordained at this church, and it has enjoyed preaching by such men as Thomas Barrett, Bestor, B. Manly, Prescott and others. It is now located at Forkland.

NO. 7.—HICKORY HILL CHURCH.

[*Note.* The record of this church was imperfectly kept, and the books are so mutilated that a correct sketch cannot be written.]

It was constituted as "Bethany Baptist Church" Saturday, August 15th, 1843, by a Presbytery composed of Wm. Fluker and Fred B. Loftin, with five members. A protracted meeting was held the next week and 11 others united with the church. Fluker and Loftin preached the rest of that year. A. Yarbrough was Pastor in 1844. In November, 1844, W. J. Calloway was called, and he served till August, 1848. In May, 1849, Wm. Woodward was called, but there is no record that he served. (Minutes lost). In January, 1851, Geo. W. Kenard was Pastor; he probably served two years. In January, 1853, A. R. Scarborough was named as Moderator, and in July of that year Solomon Williams was Moderator. He probably served as Pastor from that time till August, 1857, if no longer. The next entry on the record is July, 1859, when Jeremiah Johnson is Moderator. In September of that year A. R. Scarborough was elected Pastor, and he is named as Moderator from April to December of the next year. In May, 1861, M. M. Yarbrough was elected Pastor, and December, 1861, Hardy Yarbrough was chosen, but the records do not show that he served. In March, 1865, W. H. Pasley was elected Pastor and served one year. C. C. Vaughan was Moderator in March, 1866, and in September was elected Pastor; he served perhaps four years. W. M. Farrar is named as Moderator for a portion of 1871. In October, 1872, C. S. Ray was elected, but there is no record that he served. In 1873 the church called for the ordination of W. F. Pond, and he entered upon a pastorate of eight years. T. B. Woodward began a two years' pastorate in 1881. A. J. Hearn was called in 1883. Elder T. B. Woodward was ordained in September, 1877, by a Presbytery composed of W. F. Pond and L. E. Hall.

In May, 1846, the name of the church was changed to Black Bluff, and in August, 1855, it was again changed to Hickory Hill.

NO. 8.—HOPEWELL CHURCH (Choctaw County.)

This church was constituted in 1847 by a Presbytery composed of Elders Nathan Slay, Jas. E. Scott, Jno. G. Williams, John Talbert and H. P. Brunson. J. E. Scott was the first Pastor in 1847; H. P. Brunson was Pastor the next year. In 1849 Wm. Woodward began a pastorate of eight years. He subsequently served two years, viz: 1868-9; Nathan Smith was Pastor for five years beginning in 1857. B. F. Seale began a three years' pastorate in 1861; C. S. Ray was Pastor in 1873. In that year J. K. Ryan began a pastorate of seven (7) years; J. D. Cook then served two years and W. F. Pond one year, when the present Pastor, F. A. Freeman, was chosen.

NO. 9.—LIVINGSTON CHURCH.

This church was constituted November, 1871, by a Presbytery composed of J. B. Hamberlin, Wm. M. Farrar and H. R. Autrey.

J. B. Hamberlin was Pastor in.....1872
L. M. Stone " " .....1873 & 1874

C. S. Sturgis	"	"	 1875
Jno. E. White	"	"	.....1876 & 1877
J. A. Howard	"	"	.....1878 & 1879
N. B. Williams	"	"	.....1880 & 1882
W. H. Smith	"	"	in summer..... 1883
B. F. Riley	"	"	.....1884 & 1885

NO. 10.—MT. MORIAH CHURCH.

This church was organized Oct. 30th, 1858, by a Presbytery composed of Elders J. K. Ryan, Hardy Yarbrough and Ambrose Yarbrough. J. K. Ryan was the first Pastor and served four years. B. F. Willis was Pastor in 1863. Hardy Yarbrough became Pastor in November, 1863, and served two years; he was recalled in 1869, when he again served two years. Wm. Woodward began a three years' pastorate in 1876. C. C. Vaughan became Pastor in 1871, and served for six years. A. E. Beavers was Pastor in 1877. G. W. Rainer was then Pastor nearly three years, and in October, 1880, C. C. Bledsworth began to serve the church. He died in February, 1884, since which A. E. Beavers has been Pastor.

NO. 11.—MT. STERLING CHURCH.

This church was constituted Jan. 6th, 1851, with eight members, as an arm of Hopewell Church. Elders Nathan Slay, Wm. Campbell and Jas. E. Scott composed the constituting Presbytery.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF PASTORS.

Wm. Campbell, Pastor	1851	Chas. W. Buck, Pastor	1888 and 9
Nathan Smith	1855 and 6	J. K. Ryan	1871
A. A. Cornella	1857 and 8	P. E. Kirven	1872 and 3
W. J. Parker	1859	Elijah Bell	1875 and 6
Samuel R. Freeman	1860	J. K. Ryan	1877 and 8
J. T. Cain	1861-4	B. F. Hendon (Miss. Pas.)	1879 and 80
J. K. Ryan	1865-7	J. D. Cook	1881-4

No Pastor in 1870 and 1874.

This church has at different times worked with Liberty, Bethel and Bigbee Associations.

NO. 12.—NEW PROSPECT CHURCH.

This church was constituted in November, 1833, Elders Eli Davis and Asa Wright composing the Presbytery.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF PASTORS.

Eli Davis	1834	Thomas Willingham	1843
Asa Wright	1835	Fred B. Loftin	1844-6
W. Hodges	1836	P. G. Edmonds	1847-9
Hillman Hill	1837	J. P. May	1850-4
James Alwood	1838	N. R. Scarborough	1855-8
B. L. Barnes	1839 and 40	P. G. Edmonds	1859

P. G. Edmonds ..... 1841 W. Jacob Parker 1860-5
W. W. Christian ..... 1842 A. R. Scarborough 1866-84

In 1843 Elder W. F. Burrett was ordained; Thos. Willingham and P. G. Edmonds ordaining Presbytery. In 1849 Elder J. P. May was ordained; Presbytery, P. G. Edmonds, Wm. Woodward, F. B. Loftin and Wm. Fluker. In 1850 Elder A. R. Scarborough was ordained; Presbytery, M. Ross, Wm. Woodward, Wm. Fluker, F. B. Loftin and G. W. Kenard. In 1851 Elder H. R. Autrey was ordained: Presbytery, F. B. Loftin, J. P. May and A. R. Scarborough.

NO. 13.--ZION CHURCH.

This church was constituted ....., 1836, by a Presbytery composed of Elders ....., with ... members, under the name of "Harmony Baptist Church." Williamson Milburn was the first Pastor, from 1836 to 1839, when he moved to Texas. Joseph Ryan was then Pastor till his death in 1851. W. J. Calloway was then Pastor for four years. No Pastor for two years. S. Williams was Pastor in 1853 and 1854. In 1855 the present Pastor, J. K. Ryan, was chosen. During this time J. A. Hill and A. T. Farrar each served one year as Associate Pastor. In 1871 the name of the church was changed to Zion. Something over 1,800 members have been connected with this church since its organization.

[Appendix B.]

REPORT ON MISSIONARY NEEDS.

The committee to which was referred the matter of investigating the evangelistic needs of this Association, with a view of bringing them to the attention of this body, as well as to that of the State Mission Board, beg leave to report:

That after a thorough investigation of the field we find the situation such as to create profound concern. From the centre of the county of Sumter northward there are but two Baptist Churches, and yet this is one of the most Fertile agricultural sections known to the States of the South, while here and there throughout this interior region there are found centres of interest and intelligence where the voice of a Baptist preacher is but rarely heard. Looking along the line of the Alabama and Great Southern railroad, which traverses the county from the extreme northeast to the farthest southwest, there are but three Baptist Churches.

Beyond the Tombigbee river, and including the fertile and prosperous county of Greene, there are but three Baptist Churches. All of which are in a feeble condition. Throughout this entire county there is the lamentable spectacle of abundant church houses, where once flourished Baptist interests, but our faith is no longer proclaimed there, the houses of worship have long been closed and the ministers have hushed. And yet in the midst of this population the churches of other denominations have grown

up and are flourishing. In the entire county of Greene there is but one Baptist preacher—Rev. J. E. White.

In view of the foregoing statements your committee would most respectfully urge as prompt action as practicable in supplying the destitution of these regions, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved 1, That the churches composing the Bigbee Association be most urgently admonished to contribute more liberally than heretofore to the cause of State Missions, in order to relieve the destitution within our limits.

Resolved 2, That the Executive Committee of the Bigbee Association be instructed to co-operate with the State Mission Board in devising means and measures to meet this wide-spread destitution.

Resolved 3. That we recommend that the churches of the Bigbee Association raise for State Missions during the ensuing year $100.

B. F. RILEY, *Chairman*.

[Appendix C.]

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

No subject of more vital importance to the Baptist of Alabama, nor of the entire South, is now before us, than that of Ministerial Education. Its importance confronts us every day, and we cannot shut our eyes to it any longer. In its far reaching scope it affects not only the present generation, but the Baptist a hundred years hence will be, to a large extent, just what we of to-day make them. Even now, from every side, comes the demand for trained preachers; and the demand cannot be now supplied, nor is there any probability that such demands will ever grow less.

We all know that the preacher can never retain his place nor his influence as a leader of the people unless he keeps abreast with the march of improvements. It was never inteneed by the Great Head of the Church that its ministers should follow their flocks, but rather that they should go before them. They are not only to be filled with the spirit of Christ but imbued with every noble impulse, and in sympathy with every movement that tends to elevate our fellow race. The man whose mind is contracted by general ignorance, whose views are narrowed down to his own sphere of personal observation can never be the broad-minded, large-hearted, intelligent leader of the hosts of the people of the living God.

We are glad to note that at last the Baptist of Alabama have this matter before them in a tangible and practical form. One year ago last July a Board of Ministerial Education was appointed by the Baptist State Convention, and their first year's work was a splendid one. Over $2,000 were collected, and aid was extended to 27 ministerial students. The work of this Board was subjected to a rigid examination at the Convention, and the Board proper, its location and its place of operation remain substantially unchanged. They propose to aid no one not endorsed by his church

and who cannot stand a satisfactory examination as to his call to preach, and his fitness for mental culture; nor do they propose to aid any one who is able to pay his own way. Those who are not far enough advanced to enter the college classes they do not propose to aid at the Howard, but recommend them to study in some of the Baptist high schools of the State if such be within their reach. In these they will be aided. Dr. W. C. Cleveland, perhaps the fittest man in the State for the work, is at the head of this Board, and we recommend and believe that the Bigbee Baptist Association will do its whole duty in the grand work.

Submitted in christian love,

J. A. DAVISON,
D. W. BROCK, } *Committee.*

[Appendix D.]

REPORT ON GENERAL EDUCATION.

Never in the history of our country was such great interest felt in the matter of education as now. Prior to the war it was rather a proverbial fact that the sons and daughters of the wealthiest of our communities attended upon our institutions of learning. But since the chaotic period which succeeded the war has passed, our people, without distinction, have felt the necessity of educating their children. Our colleges were never fuller therefore, and never were more strenuous exertions made to educate the young than at the present period. In this great work our own denomination is taking advanced strides. We have an institution of learning for the education of our sons in Howard College, the reputation of which is known throughout the States of the South. Unendowed, it has held on its way, the successful competitor of State institutions which have been heavily endowed, both from the State and national treasuries. Because of this fact in part, it demands the greatest consideration at the hands of the Baptist of Alabama. Besides this, it is the peer of any other in the State in any particular, and is the superior of them all in some particulars.

Last year there were 111 matriculates in the Howard, 17 of whom were ministerial students, and 8 of whom were the sons of ministers who attended at reduced rates. At the last commencement of the College there were seven graduates, two of whom were ministers.

The President of the Howard, we understand, is preparing a system of book-keeping for a business course on a more thorough and efficient basis than is commonly afforded, and here one can be fully qualified for the different vocations of business. The course of the Howard is thorough, its discipline superior, and its moral advantages unexcelled.

The Judson Female Institute has long been the college of the Baptists of the State for the education of their daughters. We would not dare undertake to say how much has been accomplished by this institution in the purification and elevation of Southern society. Its graduates are found among the most cultivated ladies of the society of our Southern section.

The Trustees of the Judson have been forced by reason of its increasing

patronage greatly to enlarge its buildings. Under Prof. Robt. Frazer, L.L.D., the Judson is becoming annually more popular.

In connection with this institution we would name the Central Female College of Tuskaloosa. It is conducted under the auspices of the Baptist denomination of this State. Until last year it was presided over by Prof. A. K. Yancey, but his removal to another State has resulted in the election to the Presidency of Prof. G. W. Thomas, L.L.D., a gentleman distinguished alike as a teacher and a Christian. It recommends itself also to the Baptists of the State.

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky, is emphatically our "School of the Prophets." It affords advantages to our young brethren, contemplating the ministry, second to no institution on the continent. These institutions which are peculiarly our own are most earnestly commended.

E. M. SHAW,
Chairman.

[Appendix E.]

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Forty-five years ago the Home Mission Board was organized in the city of Augusta, Ga. When the severance came between Northern and Southern Baptists; during that entire time, almost a half century it has continued unabated in the work of evangelization in the South, among the Indians of the West, and the Chinese of California. Like all our other interests it suffered from the results of the war, but since the period of demoralization has passed, it has reemphasized its power and demonstrated its necessity.

To-day the territory of the Home Mission Board is that embraced within that section of the country originally known as the Southern Confederacy, together with the Indians of the West. As time has advanced the work of the Home Mission Board has steadily increased. New avenues of usefulness have opened before it, and it has shown becoming earnestness in entering them.

First. The work of the large cities such as New Orleans, St. Louis and Memphis is arresting the attention of this Board. In their great centers there are many sad influences at work, and there is a woful lack of the preaching of the Gospel by Baptist. The Home Mission Board is striving to get a foothold in all these places.

Second. Along the great railway lines that are traversing the country in all directions, there is a necessity for new church buildings; this the Home Mission Board is attempting to meet.

Third. The Indians of the West are becoming more and more civilized and rapidly christianized. The work has been most gratifying in their midst and must be continued, under the auspices of the Home Mission Board.

Fourth. The freedmen of the South are seeking advancement, they need it, they feel that they need it, they ask for it. Aside from all prejudice, God

has placed these people here for us to lift them into a higher life; with this, too, the Home Mission Board is specially charged.

Thus is briefly sketched the work of the Home Board. It asks of the Baptists of the South this year $100,000 with which to conduct its operations. Of this Alabama is asked to contribute $1,000.

In view of the glorious record of the past, and the possibilities of the future let us as Baptists rally to the sustainance of this great Board.

A. P. EVANS
Chairman.

[Appendix F.]

BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

Your Committee on Bible and Colportage Work submit the following report:

We believe that there does exist a necessity for the distribution of the *Bible, especially*, and other religious literature. Our people not only need Bibles and Testaments, but other good books which fully set forth our views and tenets. We know of no better plan to have this work done than the Colportage system now in operation. By this system every house can be visited and opportunities afforded to the people of every grade and character who, otherwise, would not be found. We, therefore, recommend that a suitable man be constantly employed (especially a minister of the gospel) to carry forward this work; for we believe that many precious souls may be brought to Christ through this instrumentality.

Respectfully submitted,

C. C. VAUGHAN, *Chairman.*

[Appendix G.]

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

The duty assigned the Central Committee was to endeavor to form a Woman's Missionary Society in every church within this Association. In pursuance of this instruction we addressed letters to every pastor in the Association, urging him to the immediate formation of such society in his church. The responses received reported societies in the following churches:

Christian Valley,
Demopolis,
Gainesville,
Hopewell (Sumter county),
Livingston,
Siloam,
Sumterville,
York,
Zion.

We have reason to believe that several other societies were organized but failed to report to the Central Committee.

It has been deemed advisable to leave the societies at liberty to make such disposition of their funds as they may choose. They have reported appropriations to the Home Missions, Foreign Missions, aiding their churches, and Valence Street Church, New Orleans.

The work is just beginning and the results are necessarily meagre, but the outlook is hopeful. We recommend that the work be pushed vigorously forward, till every church within the Association shall contain a "Woman's Missionary Society, and the roll of every society shall contain the name of every woman and girl in the church. It is impossible to over estimate the value and importance of such a state of things. The hearts and hands of earnest women, actively engaged in the service of Christ, will accomplish much more than the mere raising of money. The interest and information diffused through the denomination will prove a vast power for good. The drawing together of the great band of sisters in close association in the same great cause will quicken into zeal the energies of our churches.

We earnestly request the pastors of every church possessing no Women's Society to proceed at once to the organization of one, and to report to the Central Committee.

MRS. I. C. BROWN,
MISS TENNIE BROWN,
MRS. KATE WOODRUFF,
Committee.

[Appendix H.]

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee are gratified to report that the interest in Sunday Schools is steadily increasing in the bounds of this Association. Sunday School Conventions have recently been held in Sumter and Greene counties, at which some of your committee were present. These meetings showed a most gratifying activity and zeal on this important subject. Baptist Sunday Schools were well represented, and showed our denomination to be not at all behind the foremost in this good work.

We need a more thorough organization. We need to have more of the church members enlisted in the Sunday School. None is so thoroughly acquainted with God's Word as to need no more study, and as the Sunday School is the nursery of the church, every member should be engaged in it —preparing these young plants for early transplanting into God's vineyard.

The letters read report the following Sunday Schools:

Bulah,	4	officers	and	teachers,	25	scholars
Concord,	4	"	"	"	30	"
Cuba,	9	"	"	"	74	"
Friendship,	3	"	"	"	15	"
Gainesville,	3	"	"	"	11	"

Hickory Hill,	7	Officers and	teachers	50	scholars	
Hopewell, Choctaw,	4	"	"	40	"	
Livingston,	8	"	"	52	"	
Mt. Moriah,	8	"	"	60	"	
Sunterville,	3	"	"	35	"	
Friendship,	3	"	"	12	"	
Mt. Hermon,	5	"	"	25	"	
Siloam	5	"	"	38	"	
York	4	"	"	45	"	
Shorts	8	"	"	44	"	
Pine Grove	5	"	"	48	"	
Zion,	5	"	"	40	"	
Total number of Sunday Schools 17	83			611		

The Churches should be urged to send up full reports regarding their schools. We want the number of officers and teachers, number of scholars, literature used, number of pupils converted, and any other items deemed of interest or importance.

Respectfully submitted.

I. C. BROWN, *Chairman.*

[Appendix I.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

Your Committee beg leave to report the following bodies of Baptists represented at this session: Bethel Association, Bro. John W. Jones; South Bethel Association, Eld. W. H. DeWitt; Bethlehem Association, Miss., Elders A. Gressett and J. L. Williams and Bro. S. H. Shannon; Cahaba Association, Bro. F. N. Bailey; Tuskegee Association, Elder H. C. Sanders; Liberty Association, Brethren J. Y. Hardin and N. C. Tims; Cor. Sec. of the State Mission Board, Eld. T. M. Bailey, D.D.; Representation of Howard College, Prof. T. J. Dill, L.L.D.; Representation of Judson Female Institute, Prof. E. E. Ayers; Editor and Proprietor of the *Southern Baptist*, Meridian Miss., Eld. A. Gressett.

In behalf of the Association, we thank these brethren for their presence and assistance. We recommend that members of this body visiting other bodies of Baptists be received as Messengers from this Association.

Respectfully submitted.

T. M. BRUNSON, *Chairman.*

[Appendix J.]

FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to submit the following report:

Amount received for	State	Missions		$191 27
"	"	"	Home "	85 02
"	"	"	Foreign "	105 22
"	"	"	Ministerial Education	81 15
"	"	"	Aged and Infirm Ministers	12 30
"	"	"	Colportage	10 30
"	"	"	Evang. of Colored People	6 50
"	"	"	S. S. Mission Work	16 20
"	"	"	Demopolis Church Building	11 50
"	"	"	Minutes	36 00
Total				$585 16

The Sabbath collections has been equally divided among State, Home and Foreign Missions, with $5 32 to each Board.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. BROWNE, *Chairman.*

[Appendix K.]

TREASURER'S REPORT.

I. C. Brown in account with Bigbee Association:

1884. DR.

Sept. 15	To am't rec'd of Finance Committee (cash and vouchers)	$428 35

CR.

Sept 15	By am't paid Rev. T. M. Bailey, Cor. Sec'y, by order of Association (cash and vouchers)	$371 90
Sept. 15	By am't paid Rev. G. S. Anderson for Demopolis Church	24 00
Sept. 15	By am't paid Rev. J. D. Cook, clerk	15 00
Sept. 15	By am't paid for Printing the Minutes	17 45
Total		$428 35

Respectfully submitted,

I. C. BROWN, *Treasurer.*

[Appendix L.]

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Your Committee on State Missions beg leave to make the following report:

We are glad to announce that the work continues to grow. During the convention year just closed, as given in the annual report of our Corresponding Secretary, we had eighty-one men in the service of the Board for the whole or a part of the year, showing an increase of eleven men employed by the Board since last report. The work of these brethren has extended into every county of the State except six. The results of their work so far as they can be explained in figures are as follows:

Days of actual service	7,119

Miles travelled	52,928
Sermons and addresses delivered	4,063
Churches constituted	13
Baptisms	919
Received by letter	377
Restored	106
Total additions to churches	1,402
Sunday Schools organized	71
Ladies' Missonary Societies organized	11
Religious visits made	6,035
Number of Missionary Stations	100
Subrcribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured	112
Subscribers to the Foreign Journal	81
Prayer Meetings conducted	927
Meeting Houses begun	12
Meeting Houses finished	6

The State Mission Board has just closed its first decade. The statistics of the work for ten years are as follows:

Days of actual services	50,318
Sermons and addresses delivered	27,196
Baptisms	4,387
Received by letter	1,591
Restored	600
Total additions to churches	6,578
Churches constituted	110
Sunday Schools organized	1,138
Ladies' Missionary Societies organized	46
Religious visits made	30,737
Subscriptions to *Alabama Baptist* secured	2,351
Miles traveled	357,612
Tracts distributed pages, over	200,000
Books and pamphlets sold	29,131
(Valued at $12,490 69.)	
Cost of the work for ten years	$82,462 87

We should be thankful to God for what He has done, much remains to be done. The Board will need this year ($12,000), of this amount $286 92 is asked from this Association. But this Association desires to increase this amount to $400 in supplying the destitution within its own bounds and now, brethren, let us come up to the full measure of our duty and give as the Lord hath prospered us.

Respectfully submitted,

O. C. THOMAS,
W. H. BROWN,
W. P. BREWER.
Committee.

[Appendix M.]

TEMPERANCE.

Bro. Moderator :—This is one of the most important questions that will come before this meeting, as intemperance is the strongest element the *Asian* religon has to contend with.

The object in discussing it is two-fold.

1st. To encourage and strengthen those who are working for temperance; let them know what their co-workers are doing throughout our land. What progress we are making and the efforts being put forth by our opponents to check us.

2d. To induce by argument and persuasion, those who are opposed to us, to come over to our way of looking at this serious question.

In order to accomplish these objects let us meet the issue squarely and fairly, to be temperate in our language. As men are more easily led than driven.

In beginning I congratulate this Association, and the friends of temperance throughout our State, on the prosperous outlook. We have abundant cause to feel encouraged.

During the last Legislature there were passed ninety-six bills prohibiting the sale of liquor, in belts of country, ranging from five miles square to entire counties, these taken in connection with points at which was already prohibition, gives us a large part of our State.

That liquor exercises a powerful influence, is not denied, and there being no neutral ground this influence must be for good or bad.

If the use of whisky increases honesty, makes men more respectable and reliable, adds to domestic happiness; makes neighborhood's more moral, thereby proving of assistance to the spread of the Gospel, then I am with the whisky men, but on the other hand if I can show the worse to be true, common honesty demands that you come with me.

I hold in my hand a number of certificates from men who have graced the judicial ermine for a long period of years, and it is their opinion that two-thirds of the crime that has come before their courts is tracable to the use of liquor.

I refer you to the report from our penitentiary, and if you wish additional proof, go to the records of your county and you will see that four-fifths of the crimes tried in your court may be traced to the too free use of liquor.

I am willing that any fair minded man, shall act as judge, and say whether or not liquor elevates the morals of men, increases domestic happiness or assists in obeying the commands of God.

I will give a few statistical facts, that may serve as food for thought.

I will state that my statistics are taken from the report of the Commissioner of Internal Revinue. I prefer using these, as they are official and can not be denied. No one can say, they were manufactured for the prohibition party, as is sometimes charged.

The Commissioner in the begining of his report states the manufactures of liquor is increasing annually, the increase for the year previous was 15,789,368 gallons.

The total amount that passed through the Government Warehouses was 71,892,621 gallons, just here I would have you bear in mind that in the opinion of the Commissioner, twenty five per cent of the liquor used, escapes taxation, therefore the figures should be 99,865,771 gallons.

The population of the United States is 52,000,000, we will assume that one half of them are females, leaving 26,000,000 males, and that one-half this number are under fifteen years old, which gives us 13,000,000. Of this number probably one fourth do not drink liquor.

So we have 99,865,771 gallons of liquor to be drank by 9,750,000 men. It appears that this is impossible, but facts are stubborn things, and can not be brushed aside by a wave of the hand.

The use of this vast quantity of happiness destroyer is enough, but when we go a little farther, and see the cost, it only makes bad worse.

God in his goodness and mercy sends seasonable showers in order that the earth may produce bread, and yet rebellious and sinful man, in return for this kindness makes it up into liquor.

Bushels corn	13,985,745
Bushels Rye	2,838,933
Bushels of Barley	1,334,897

Making a grand total of 18,159,575 bushels of grain which God gave man to eat.

In addition to this was used 2,801,307 gallons molasses.

In line of statement made five minutes back we should add 25 per cent. which would give us 22,699,115, bushels grain and 3,501,633 gallons molasses.

The field for speculation in statistics openes under each step we take.

It requires 1,252 wholesale dealers and 155,859 retail dealers to dispose of this vile stuff upon which our Government collects blood money.

It is to be regretted that the Government collects a whisky tax, as it that fur sanctions, and encourages the manufacturer of it. I hold the Government has no right to fix a price upon the moral and spiritual life of its citizens, as it sets a precedent upon which neighborhoods acts. When you sign an application to sell liquor you virtually place a price upon your son, or your neighbors son, as the strong probability is that some one will be ruined by that bar-room.

I read an account five days ago of a boy, who while crazed with liquor rushed out of a saloon, in Louisville, Kentucky and began shooting indiscriminately, he killed two persons and wounded the third, before the police killed him. Death at all times and under all circumstances is sad, but to be shot down in the street like a rabid dog is inexpressibly sad.

I would make this a personal matter with you, fathers.

I ask in all candor, when we shall appear before the final judgment bar, who will God hold responsible for these murders? I believe close beside this boy will stand the bar-keeper who sold him the reason dethroner, and surrounding them both will be those who signed the application for license to sell liquor.

I believe that God will be but exercising justice, when he holds them

equally responsible. That sacred book teaches clearly, both informatively and positively, that we are responsible for our acts.

There are many good men who are indifferent on this subject, they have or think they have sufficient control over themselves to guard against the evil effects, granting that this is true, have you not a son or a friend who does not possess this control, then is it not your duty as father, friend or good citizen to join those who are trying to rid the country of this curse.

Some claim to be opposed to "sumptuary laws," to "trying to legislate morals into the people." In reply to these will say our statutes are full of such laws, and they are indispensible to peace, order and persuit of happiness.

Others when approachd, reply "let those who drink take the consequences," this is more plausible than convincing, as those who drink take the whiskey, and their helpless families take the consequences, which are most generally domestic discord and poverty.

I submit a few more statistics. We spent in the United States during 1883 for

Bread	505,000,000.
Meat	303,000,000.
Woolen goods	237,000,000.
Cotton goods	210,000,000.
Boots and shoes	196,000,000.
Sugar and molasses	155,000,000.
Public instructions	85,000,000.
Missions	5,000.
Total	$1,696,500,000.

Or about $32 for necessaries and luxuries, then we share with our families, but we spend $900,000,000 or about $16 per capita upon ourselves. This looks bad enough, but let us twist it once or twice and see how selfish man really is. I place the male population at 26,000,000, this at one twist we raise our selfishness to $32. One half the males are too young to drink, that forces one more division and we reach approximately the facts, which are that 13,000,000 men spend annually 900,000,000 or $61 per capita for intoxicating drink.

I might very well pause here satisfied, you have some food for the mind to digest.

But let us make a few more comparisons which are healthful whether palitable or not.

It is not always the best advice or medicine, that is most acceptable or palitable. We spend more money for liquor, than for bread and meat.

We paid ten times as much for liquor, as for the support of our public schools.

We paid 160 times as much for our drinks as we did for the spread of religion.

I do not think the State of Alabama has the moral right to grant license to any man to do what the face of the acts admits to be wrong. The State

starts out by placing a tax upon the business out of all proportion to the tax placed upon any other business, in fact it is a violation of the act regulating taxation. After granting a man the privilege of selling liquor the present year it tries (apparantly) to appease a guilty conscience by saying "you shall not sell to minors or to persons of known intemperate habits," therefor it admits it is wrong.

The law recognizes liquor to be a peace disturber and says the dram shop shall remain closed on election days. Now I claim if the State has the right to close the bar room one day, it has the right to entirely suppress the sale of liquor, and I hope to see the day, when the general government will suppress the manufacturers of that, which cause more trouble than any other one thing.

As there are several others to be heard on this important subject, I will close, Bro. Moderator, by making just one plea for the noble women of our Southern land, who are working for this object under the name of W. C. T. U. They are doing a great, a grand work, have already outlived the croaking prophesies of an early death. Have so far outstripped the expectations of the founders of the order, and are destined to go much farther yet. The heroism, and patriotism of the spartan woman has been an exhaustless theme for poets, and writers of fiction, and while I would not rob them of one luster of their merited honor, I would place beside them upon the same high pedestal our own Southern women.

These noble workers do not ask your money they only want your moral support, while they work for your interest. They are as good, as lovable woman as God ever gave to man to encourage his virtues and curb his vices. Then let us show our appreciation of them.

[Appendix N.]

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee beg leave to report that the Foreign Mission interest of the Southern Baptist Convention was never in so prosperous a condition as now. Never was the Foreign Board put under such a strain to meet the crying demands for the Gospel of truth, as they come from every quarter of the globe. From the fields of China, Africa, Italy, Mexico and Brazil, the encouragements are such as to stimulate Southern Baptist to exercise the greatest energy in this vast work. Last year the Board received for all departments of its work $80,165.85; but its work has been so greatly enlarged that it asks of the Baptists of the South $100,000 with which to further its work next year. Of this amount the Baptists of Alabama are asked to contribute $500. Of this amount the Bigbee Association is asked to contribute $119.55. There are in the employment of the Board in Mexico fifteen missionaries and native assistants; in Brazil, eight; in Africa, fifteen; in China, fifty-six; in Italy twelve, making in all 105 missionaries and native assistants. Other brethren and sisters are offering their services, and only the means are needed to enable the Board to send them. As mission-

ary Baptists let us assist in the great work. The Bible teaches us that he who is a child of grace feels for the souls of others. So the tree will be judged by the fruit it bears. Let us be missionaries in word and deed, and come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

When we consider what great and rich blessings we enjoy in the possession of the Christian religion; when we consider what happiness and peace are ours, then it behooves us to use all of our efforts to contribute largely of the first fruits of our increase to the heathen, who have not the blessed Gospel of Christ. Brethren, the very fact that we are converted is due to the work of a missionary.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. BROWN.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS OF THE BIGBEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

NAMES.	POST OFFICE.
H. R. Autrey	Epes, Sumter County, Ala.
J. D. Cook	Cuba Station, Sumter Co., Ala.
W. S. Culpepper	Rosser, Sumter Co., Ala.
F. A. Freeman	Butler, Choctaw Co., Ala.
J. R. Larkin	Coatopa, Sumter Co., Ala.
W. F. Pond	Kinterbish, Sumter Co., Ala.
B. F. Riley, D. D	Livingston, Sumter Co., Ala.
J. K. Ryan	Yantley Creek, Choctaw Co., Ala.
A. R. Scarborough	Livingston, Sumter Co., Ala.
W. T. Simmons	Jefferson, Marengo Co., Ala.
C. C. Vaughan	Cuba Station, Sumter Co., Ala.
J. E. White	Eutaw, Greene Co., Ala.
T. B. Woodward	Gaston, Sumter Co., Ala.

LICENSED MINISTERS OF THE BIGBEE ASSOCIATION.

NAMES.	POST OFFICE.
L. L. Belsher	Butler, Choctaw County, Ala.
I. B. Bunyard	Cuba Station, Sumter Co., Ala.
A. P. Evans	Kinterbish, Sumter Co., Ala.
A. B. Spidel	Belmont, Sumter Co., Ala.

CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS, PREACHING.

CHURCHES.	County.	Pastors.	Pastor's Post Office.	Clerks.	Clerk's Post Office.	DAYS OF PREACHING.
Beulah	Sumter	C. C. Vaughan	Cuba Station	E. M. Flowers	Kinterbish	1th Sabbath and Saturday before
Christian Valley	"	J. R. Larkin	Coatopa	W. R. Rushing	Coatopa	2nd " " "
Clinton	Greene	J. E. White	Eutaw			3rd " " "
Concord	Choctaw	J. D. Cook	Cuba Station	L. A. Brock	Yantley Creek	1st " " "
Cuba	Sumter	J. D. Cook	" "	J. T. Willis	Cuba Station	3rd " " "
Demopolis	Marengo	G. S. Anderson	Newberne			
Eutaw	Greene	J. E. White	Eutaw			2nd Sabbath
Fellowship	Marengo	W. T. Simmons	Jefferson	W. M. Simmons	Demopolis	3rd Sabbath and Saturday before
Friendship	Greene	J. E. White	Eutaw	J. L. Faut	Forkland	1th " " "
Gainesville	Sumter	B. F. Riley	Livingston	Ben Easley	Gainesville	2nd Sabbath
Hickory Hill	"	A. J. Hearn	Putnam	J. P. Woolf	Bevill's Store	1st Sabbath and Saturday before
Hopewell	Choctaw	F. A. Freeman	Butler	C. J. Williams	Mt. Sterling	3rd " " "
Hopewell	Sumter	A. R. Scarborough	Livingston	C. S. Coats	Belmont	1st " " "
Livingston	"	B. F. Riley	"	B. S. Barker	Livingston	1st and 3rd Sabbaths
Mt. Hermon	"			R. J. McGowen	York	3rd Sabbath and Saturday before
Mt. Moriah	"			A. J. McElroy	Cuba Station	1th " " "
Mt. Sterling	Choctaw	F. A. Freeman	Butler	J. B. Turner	Mt. Sterling	1st Sabbath
New Prospect	Sumter	A. R. Scarborough	Livingston	W. P. Brewer	Livingston	1th Sabbath and Saturday before
Rehoboth	Choctaw	F. A. Freeman	Butler	J. W. Cook	Pushmataha	2nd " " "
Shorts	Sumter	W. H. DeWitt	Hoboken	T. F. Seale	Gaston	2nd " " "
Siloam	Sumter	W. F. Pond	Kinterbish	S. D. Greene	York	2nd " " "
Stonewall	"					
Sumterville	"	B. F. Riley	Livingston	W. H. Brown	Sumterville	4th Sabbath and Sunday before
York	"	J. D. Cook	Cuba Station	C. P. Mills	York	4th " " "
Zion	"	J. K. Ryan	Yantley Cr'k	T. M. Brunson	Rosser	2nd " " "

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Churches.	Additions: Baptized	Additions: Letters.	Additions: Restorations.	Diminutions: Deaths.	Diminutions: Letters.	Diminutions: Exclusion.	Total Membership.	Pastor's Salary.	Sabbath Schools: Sunday Sch'l Teachers.	Sabbath Schools: Sunday Sch'l Scholars.	Sabbath Schools: Sunday Sch'l Contributions.	Contributions: Minutes.	Contributions: State Missions.	Contributions: Home Missions.	Contributions: Foreign Missions.	Contributions: Ministerial Education.	Contributions: Colportage.	Contributions: Ag'd and Infirm Ministers.	Contributions: Evang. of Col. People.	Contributions: S. S. Miss'y Work.	Contributions: Demopolis Ch. Building.	
Pearlah	6	4	..	1	2	..	54	$	4	25	$	$ 1 25	$ 8 50	$	$	$ 3 00	$	$ 3 75	$	$	$	$ 16 50
Christian Valley	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	.....	..	..	.....	1 50	11 25	5 35	5 35	.....	50	1 00	50	.....	.....	25 45
Clinton	..	..	..	..	..	..	*40	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Concord	1	12	1	1	2	1	113	.....	4	30	.....	2 00	6 00	6 00	6 25	10 00	.....	3 00	.....	.....	.....	33 25
Cuba	..	12	..	..	18	12	134	.....	9	74	.....	2 00	18 00	5 00	13 00	10 00	50	1 50	50	.....	.....	50 50
Demopolis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eutaw	..	..	..	..	..	..	*18	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fellowship	6	1	..	..	..	2	31	.....	..	..	.....	1 00	4 50	1 50	1 00	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 00
Friendship	..	1	..	..	..	..	12	.....	3	15	.....	2 00	.....	8 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00
Gainesville	..	5	..	1	11	..	31	200 00	3	11	13 20	1 50	23 70	10 40	5 55	15 00	50	1 00	50	13 20	.....	71 35
Hickory Hill	2	2	..	2	4	..	49	.....	7	50	6 50	2 25	12 10	5 10	4 70	1 50	50	8 25	1 00	3 00	.....	38 40
Hopewell, Choctaw Co	10	..	..	..	4	..	51	.....	4	40	....	2 50	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	2 25	....	.....	.....	4 75
Hopewell, Sumter Co.	..	..	..	2	..	..	41	.....	..	..	.....	3 00	2 75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 75
Livingston	1	8	..	..	..	..	47	500 00	8	52	20 00	50	39 40	8 50	8 50	13 00	50	1 00	50	.....	.....	71 90
Mt. Hermon	..	..	..	..	..	..	*47	.....	5	25	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Moriah	..	1	..	3	3	..	41	.....	8	60	....	1 00	5 60	2 70	2 70	...	50	1 00	50	.....	.....	14 00
Mt. Sterling	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	.....	..	..	.....	1 50	.....	.....	.....	1 00	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	7 50
New Prospect	7	..	..	..	..	..	28	.....	..	..	.....	2 00	6 75	4 25	4 25	.....	50	1 00	50	.....	.....	18 25
Rehoboth	..	..	..	..	2	..	32	.....	..	..	.....	2 00	9 50	5 15	7 75	3 25	.....	4 50	2 00	.....	.....	34 15
Shorts	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	.....	8	44	.....	1 50	1 25	1 25	55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 55
Siloam	..	..	..	3	5	1	127	.....	5	38	....	2 00	40	3 00	3 00	.....	.....	2 00	.....	.....	.....	10 40
Stonewall	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sumterville	13	2	..	1	6	1	31	200 00	3	35	....	1 50	22 55	6 50	7 30	5 70	50	7 05	50	11 50	.....	63 10
York	11	28	..	..	5	..	55	157 00	4	45	...	2 75	5 25	.....	22 00	8 70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38 70
Zion	3	..	..	..	4	1	73	46 25	5	10	...	2 00	8 45	7 00	8 00	9 00	6 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	40 75
Total	25	60	61	1	14	69	21	1143	$1103 25	80	581	$39 70	$35 75	$185 95	$79 70	$99 90	$81 15	$10 30	$12 30	$6 50	$16 20	$11 50	$569 25

*Statistics from last year's report.

CONSTITUTION.

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1. This body shall be known by the name of the "Bigbee Baptist Association."

2. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual meeting, from its own body, and shall hold their office until their successors are elected.

3. The Moderator shall preside over the Association, and shall discharge the duties usually imposed upon officers presiding over deliberative bodies.

4. The Clerk shall keep a fair record of the proceedings of this Association, and shall attend to the printing and distributing of the minutes.

5. The Treasurer shall perform the duties usually assigned to such officer, and shall report annually to the Association.

6. The Association shall hold its meetings at such time and place as it shall, from time to time, appoint.

7. Every church shall be entitled to two delegates, and, also, one for every twenty-five members exceeding twenty-five.

8. This Association disclaims all right of exercising authority over the internal regulations of churches, believing that within their own sphere they are accountable to God only.

9. This Constitution may be altered or amended by the concurrence of three-fourths of the members composing the Association.

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ARTICLES OF FAITH.

I. We believe in one living and true God: that in the Godhead are Father Son and the Holy Spirit.

II. We believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the New Testament is the only rule of faith and practice.

III. We believe that the Church of God is composed of such persons as believe in Jesus Christ and have been baptized; that baptism consists in the immersion of the whole body in water; and that the Lord's Supper should be administered to church members only.

IV. We believe in the Doctrines of Grace taught by the United Baptists, viz: In the depravity of man; in the converting grace of God; in the resurrection of the dead; in the general judgment, in the eternal life of the righteous—in the everlasting punishment of the wicked.

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RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. At each meeting of this Association, the Moderator shall take the chair, shall call the members to order, shall decide questions of order subject to an appeal, shall open and close the Association with prayer, shall appoint committees when not otherwise ordered, and shall pronounce the decisions of the Association.

2d. The names of members shall be called each day, and invitations to seats extended to ministering brethren.

3rd. The members shall observe respect to officers and to each other, shall rise when addressing the Moderator, shall confine themselves to the questions shall avoid personalities, shall not speak without leave more than once until every member shall have opportunity to speak, and shall sustain that bearing to each other which becomes gentlemen and christians.

4th. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Moderator, and then shall be in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn by the mover before amendment or decision.

5th. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to amend or postpone; which motion shall have precedence in the order enumerated.

6th. All questions except those relating to the Constitution shall be decided by a majority. Any member voting with the majority, may move for a reconsideration on the day of decision. Members may not leave the Association without permission.

7th. When questions of order are not provided for in these rules, they shall be decided according to the rules and regulations governing legislative bodies generally.

8th. The Association shall have power to receive into its body and fellowship such churches as apply for admission; and shall also be empowered to, withdraw its fellowship from any church or body of men walking disorderly; and supposed to be unworthy the fellowship of this Association.